MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 APRIL 1982

Temple Mount Incident

Muslim Council Strike Call -- The Supreme Muslim Council in east Jerusalem placed responsibility for the Temple Mount shooting on the Israeli Government and called for a 7-day general strike, according to Jerusalem radio.

On 12 April a nearly total strike was paralyzing the towns of Judaea and Samaria, and in the towns of Samaria and the Gaza Strip town of Rafah stone-throwing and tire-burning riots were taking place, according to Jerusalem radio reports. In Nabulus, tear gas and shots fired in the air forced rioters to disperse, the radio said.

Every man of good will feels profound regret over this terrible sacrilege and loss of life, the prime minister's office stated in an announcement reported by Jerusalem radio. The government shares the sorrow of the bereaved families and sends wishes for recovery to the wounded, the announcement continued. With regard to the Supreme Muslim Council's claim that the Government of Israel is responsible for the incident, the prime minister's office announcement said that the council is trying to use a tragedy caused by a mentally distorted person for incitement against Israel.

VOP Reportage, Reaction -- The Zionist settlers attacked the Al-Aqsa and 'Umar Mosques, using machineguns and handgrenades, and opened fire and hurled grenades indiscriminately at Palestinian citizens, according to the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio. Referring to the Palestinian dead and wounded, the radio cited "reports" that this flagrant Zionist "aggression" will cause a total conflagration of the situation in the occupied territories. The occupation forces have imposed a total military siege on West Bank cities and villages and cut off telephone communications among the Palestinian cities to prevent news of the Zionist "crime" against the holy mosque from spreading, the radio later claimed.

This is a crime which brings the mind to a halt, the Palestine news agency's political editor wrote in a commentary read over Voice of Palestine. The settlers "intentionally and premeditatedly" fired at Palestinians; the police and border guards joined in shooting Palestinians because they are Palestinians and Arabs; the "terrorist" Zionist leadership headed by Begin and Sharon gave orders to kill the unarmed worshipers inside the mosque, the editor continued, adding that the U.S. administration is also responsible because it gave Israel the tools to implement the mass killing.

The killing of worshipers and the violation of Islamic holy places require Muslims and Arabs to launch a holy war to liberate Arab and Muslim lands from the Zionist "aggressors," A PLO Executive Committee statement broadcast by Voice of Palestine declared. After this premeditated attack, our Arab and Islamic nation must direct its denunciation, anger and indignation at the United States, which supports the Israeli occupation, the statement added.

'Retaliation' Against U.S. Embassy -- The "Al-Aqsa Group" fired several "rockets" at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, damaging the fourth floor, in retaliation for the "Israeli operation" in the Al-Aqsa Mosque area in east Jerusalem, Voice of Lebanon radio announced citing a group spokesman who telephoned the station.

Israel

Fatah Incursion -- On 9 April an IDF patrol apprehended two Fatah members who penetrated from Jordan north of Moshav Argaman in the Jordan Valley, Jerusalem radio reported. Both carried Kalashnikov rifles, handgrenades, explosive sticks, sabotage bricks, electronic detonators and boxes of explosives, according to the radio. Political circles described the penetration as a most serious act, a violation of the cease-fire, and a natural extension of the recently intensified acts of terror against Israel, according to IDF radio. The circles added that the terrorists are waging their war against Israel out of the mistaken assumption that Israel's hands are tied, the radio reported.

Cabinet Meeting, Lewis Remarks -- After an 11 April Cabinet meeting, which had been scheduled to debate the tension in the north and relations with Egypt, the Cabinet secretary refused to divulge any details because the entire session had been declared a meeting of the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs, Jerusalem radio reported.

After a 3-hour meeting with Prime Minister Menahem Begin and the Israeli foreign and defense ministers, U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis revealed that Begin had told him Israel had made no decision to invade Lebanon in any way whatsoever, Jerusalem radio reported. Lewis also said the U.S. viewed the 9 April infiltration via Jordan as a violation of the cease-fire, according to the radio.

Relations With Egypt -- Israel insists Egypt rectify by 26 April a series of violations of the military appendix to the Israeli-Egyptian treaty, Prime Minister Menahem Begin told U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis at the end of last week, Jerusalem radio reported on 12 April. It added that Israel has also complained that Egyptian officers in Al-'Arish are aiding terrorist organization representatives in that town to transfer military equipment into the Gaza Strip. Earlier, the radio reported that Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche, who is currently in Egypt, had complained to Egyptian officials about the violations and that he protested against the 11-point plan for settling the Palestinian problem presented by Egypt at the nonaligned meeting in Kuwait because in Israel's view the plan totally contradicts the Camp David accords.

Authoritative sources in Jerusalem have expressed concern over reported high-level contacts between Egyptian officials and PLO leaders, according to Jerusalem radio. It added that in these contacts Egypt contemplated approving the resumption of Voice of Palestine broadcasts from Cairo after the completion of the Sinai withdrawal.

U.S. Under Secretary for Political Affairs Walter Stoessel will visit Israel and Egypt to deal with several disputes that have arisen between Jerusaelm and Cairo, according to Jerusalem radio. Israel firmly adheres to its intention to maintain the peace agreement and complete the Sinai withdrawal on time, Jerusalem circles said according to the radio. However, Israel would like to clarify urgent points involving Egyptian violations of the military annex of the peace agreement, Cairo's contacts with the PLO, the border demarcation dispute and the political program for solving the Palestinian problem proposed by Egypt at the nonaligned meeting, the circles explained.

Lebanon

Anticipation of Attack -- Lebanon presented a note to the UN Security Council protesting Israeli military concentrations along its southern border, Beirut radio reported. President Ilyas Sarkis met separately with the U.S. and USSR ambassadors and asked each to inform his government of Lebanon's fears, Beirut radio reported.

Soviet military experts accompanied by four Syrian generals toured PLO strongholds in southern Lebanon on 11 April, Jerusalem television reported citing the "Christian military radio station in Lebanon." The Syrian Army has sent further reinforcements to Lebanon, according to reports cited by the television.

After a tour of Joint forces' positions in southern Lebanon, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat stated that the joint forces will confront the expected Israeli aggression with violence and ferocity, according to Voice of Palestine. Meanwhile, 'Arafat requested the Saudi monarch by telephone to use all his influence to pressure the United States into preventing Israel from carrying out its criminal plot, QNA reported citing sources quoted by the Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN.

Syrian Commentary -- Referring to Israeli threats and concentrations near the Lebanese border, a Damascus radio commentary warned that the Middle East is not the property of one side which plans and implements what it desires while the other sides merely watch.

PLO

A PLO Executive Committee working committee on the occupied areas accused Zionist policy of prompting gangs, under direct planning and supervision of the occupation authorities, to commit aggression against the Palestinian masses under the slogan of the so-called village leagues, Voice of Palestine reported.

Iran-Iraq-Syria Conflict

Oil Flow Stoppage -- Syrian authorities have informed Iraq that they have stopped the flow of its oil through Syrian territory, Iraqi Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim announced on 10 April in a statement reported by INA. Asserting that the Syrian decision came after the Syrian foreign minister concluded an anti-Iraqi strategic alliance with the Persian regime, Al-Karim claimed the oil flow ban exposes the Syrian regime's "treasonous" stand against supreme pan-Arab interests and hurts the people of Syria and Lebanon, who benefit economically from the flow of Iraqi oil through their territories. Iraq is capable of continuing its march regardless of the "agents' plots," Al-Karim affirmed.

Iraqi Reaction to Border Closure -- Syrian justifications for closing the border with Iraq are groundless and based on lies, an official Iraqi Foreign Ministry spokesman declared in a statement reported by INA. Iraq strongly condemns this decision, which conflicts with pan-Arab solidarity and international law, the spokesman said. After stressing that the Syrian foreign minister's recent visit to Iran resulted in a large-scale strategic alliance aimed at escalating aggression against Iraq, the spokesman claimed that the Syrian border closure also aims at diverting attention from the regime's internal situation.

Saddam Husayn Speech -- Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad can do no worse than he has already done, and if he attempts to attack Iraqi territory, women and children will fight him near the border, President Saddam Husayn stated in a speech to the Iraqi National Assembly reported by INA. Iraq can compensate for the losses resulting from the oil flow suspensions merely by urging Iraqi women and children to economize in their domestic and personal expenditures, the president said. Urging government and party officials to be paragons of austerity, he added that though Iraq has entered a new economic phase, everything will be overcome. After reviewing Iraqi grievances against the Syrian and Iranian regimes, Husayn announced that the Iraqi Army will withdraw immediately if the Iranians declare that the war has ended and that they respect Iraq's rights to its land and waters. To ask for compensation without a court decision defining who committed aggression is a fallacy, the president stressed.

Egyptian Commentary -- By closing the border with Iraq and banning the pumping of Iraqi oil through its territory, Syria has created a battle within the Arab front, Cairo's AL-AKHBAR commented in an article reported by MENA. Other Arab states affected by Syria's measures will inevitably support Iraq, the paper added.

AS-SIYASAH Editorial -- Egypt's human resources are ultimately Arab, and their defense of Iraq would be defense of Arab land, Kuwait AS-SIYASAH's chief editor stated in an eidtorial published shortly after he held a 2-hour meeting with the Egyptian president. Stressing Egypt's importance to the Arab world and to its conflict with Iran, the chief editor argued that the Arab world should correct Egypt's status within it, especially since President Husni Mubarak is not responsible for what took place before or for Egypt's dispute with its Arab sister states.

Egypt

Abu Ghazalah Promotion -- President Mubarak has issued a decree promoting Defense Minister Lt Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah to the rank of field marshal, Cairo radio reported.

Increased Duties for Armed Forces -- Egypt's security is not limited to guaranteeing the security of its borders but is linked with the security of the whole area, a Cairo radio commentary maintained. The Iraqi-Iranian war and direct or indirect foreign infiltration into the region illustrate the area's lack of security. Because peace will remain incomplete and the area will be subject to tension and infiltration until the Palestine question is resolved, Egypt's political leadership has reaffirmed that the duties of the Egyptian Armed Forces will be increased following Israel's withdrawal from the Sinai, the commentary declared.

Ghali Interview, Al-Majid Statement -- After 26 April Egypt will contact Jordan and the Palestinian people in order to bring them into the autonomy talks, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said in an interview broadcast by Monte Carlo radio. Asked about Syria's future role in the peace process, Ghali replied that Egyptian diplomacy, which proceeds step-by-step, will first try to reach a temporary solution of the Palestinian problem and only then move on to other issues.

The Palestinian issue is constantly losing ground as a result of vituperations, slogans and one-upmanship by those who do not want a solution, Egypt's delegate to the recent nonaligned meeting in Kuwait 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said in a statement reported by MENA. Since Israel and the PLO have rejected Egypt's proposals, the onus is on them to submit alternative solutions, Al-Majid contended. Some Arab countries which share Egypt's views have not made their stand public because of the pressure they encounter in the Arab world, according to Al-Majid.

Delegation to Libya -- After receiving Libyan assurances guaranteeing its delegation's security, Egypt decided to attend the eighth session of the African economy ministers conference to be held in Tripoli, MENA reported citing the 9 April issue of AL-MUSAWWAR.

Iran

A coup plot instigated by counterrevolutionaries, nationalists and monarchists has been discovered and the main plotters, including former Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh, have been arrested, a statement issued by the Armed Forces Revolution Court Chief, read over Tehran radio, announced. The plotters intended to eliminate Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni and the Supreme Defense Council and, with foreign assistance, to purge other institutions under the pretext of avenging the blood of Khomeyni and his associates, the statement claimed. Security and judicial officials have clearcut evidence, are preparing the case and are seeking other accused individuals, the statement concluded.

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DOST MEETS 'ARAFAT, FOREIGN MINISTERS IN KUWAIT

GF091615 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 9 Apr 82

[Text] Shah Mohammad Dost, DRA minister of foreign affairs, met yesterday with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat in Kuwait. During this meeting, which was held in an extremely friendly, fraternal and sincere atmosphere, topics of interest and particularly the Palestine problem were discussed.

According to another report, Shah Mohammad Dost met yesterday with Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto in an atmosphere of sincere friendship. During this meeting Shah Mohammad Dost and the Nicaraguan foreign minister discussed bilateral relations, South Asia and Latin American topics.

According to another report, Shah Mohammad Dost met yesterday with Nasir Qaddur, the Syrian deputy foreign minister and head of that country's delegation, in an atmosphere of cordiality and discussed topics of interest.

Similarly, Shah Mohammad Dost met today with Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao and PDRY Foreign Minister Salim Salih Muhammad in Kuwait. During these meetings, which were held in a friendly atmosphere, topics of interest were discussed.

DOST-LED DELEGATION RETURNS FROM KUWAIT

LD111952 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 Apr 82

[Text] Shah Mohammad Dost, DRA minister of foreign affairs, and the delegation which participated in the Nonaligned Foreign Ministers' Conference in Kuwait in support of Palestine, returned home today.

Mohammad Khan Jalalar, minister of commerce; the general political director; a number of Foreign Ministry officials; and the Indian ambassador to Kabul welcomed him at Kabul airport.

WATANJAR RETURNS FROM HANOI VCP CONGRESS

LD072340 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Aslam Watanjar, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of communications, who visited Hanoi with a party delegation at the invitation of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee to take part in the fifth VCP Congress, returned home this afternoon.

He was welcomed at Kabul International Airport by Dr Najib, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, deputy ministers and heads of department of the Ministry of Communications; the general director of political affairs at the Interior Ministry; protocol representatives of that ministry; and the Vietnamese and Soviet ambassadors in Kabul.

Speaking to a BAKHTAR correspondent on his arrival at Kabul International Airport, Aslam Watanjar said: The Afghan revolution was cheered in the meetings of the congress, and representatives of various parties of several countries expressed their strong support and solidarity for the April Revolution and the people of Afghanistan.

Aslam Watanjar added: During our stay in Vietnam we had fruitful discussions with party and government officials of that country.

NUR LEAVES FOR MOSCOW TO BRIEF AFGHAN STUDENTS

LD111644 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 Apr 82

[Text] Nur Ahmad Nur, Politburo member and PDPA Central Committee secretary, left for Moscow today to explain the PDPA national conference resolutions to Afghan students in the Soviet Union. He was seen off at Kabul International Airport by Dr Saleh Mohammad Ziray, Politburo member and party Central Committee secretary; Mohammad Aslam Watanjar, party Central Committee Politburo member and minister of communications; [name indistinct], party Central Committee secretary; a number of party Central Committee members; the general political director and deputy director of the Protocol Department of the Foreign Ministry; and the Soviet ambassador to Kabul.

19-YEAR-OLDS TO REPORT FOR MILITARY SERVICE

GF101755 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 10 Apr 82

[Text] Those youths who have reached the age of 19 by 10 [presumably 10 Hamal, 30 March] are to be called for military service. School and university students can postpone registration.

Those who have completed the 10th grade and volunteer to join the military service will be given 12th grade diplomas upon completion of military service. Those who have completed the 11th grade and volunteer to join the military service, upon discharge, will be given 12th grade diplomas and can enter higher education institutions without taking entrance examinations.

Those persons who have been expelled from higher education institutions will be dispatched to military service and have no right to request postponement.

AFP: AFGHAN MILITARY ATTACHE IN DELHI DEFECTS

BK110538 Hong Kong AFP in English 0523 GMT 11 Apr 82

[Text] New Delhi, 11 Apr (AFP) -- The Afghan military attache in New Delhi, Lieutenant Colonel Zia Majid, has defected to the West, according to local press reports today.

He was due to leave for Kabul last week but left for Vienna instead, the reports said.

AFP: 2 SOVIET EMBASSY STAFFERS EXPELLED

BK111408 Hong Kong AFP in English 1357 GMT 11 Apr 82

[Text] Dacca, 11 Apr (AFP) -- Two Soviet Embassy employees have been expelled from Bangladesh and sent back to Moscow last Thursday, a week after their detention by police from a place near Dacca, the largest-circulating daily ITTEFAQ reported today. The paper did not mention any source but said that the two embassy staff members, Mr Lumvoskiy and Mr Kirichuk, were detained by police on March 31 from a road-side jungle in Jovdevpur, about 25 miles (40 km) away from the capital.

No reason for the detention was given but ITTEFAQ said that the Soviet Embassy later said in a protest note to the Foreign Office in Dacca that they were rounded up by police after they had gone to Jovdevpur "to destroy 500 rolls of old film."

Official sources confirmed the incident but declined to make any comment.

COUNCIL OF ADVISERS REORGANIZES 17 MINISTRIES

BK091700 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Apr 82

[Excerpts] The Council of Advisers, which met for about 3 and 1/2 hours in Dacca today with the chief martial law administrator [CMLA] in the chair, decided that besides the President Secretariat and the CMLA Secretariat there would now be 17 ministries and 42 divisions under them. Several ministries have been renamed and the divisions under these ministries have been rationalised. The Ministries of Industries and Commerce have been amalgamated into one ministry. Before March 15th, there were 41 ministries and over 52 divisions. The present reorganized ministries are: Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance and Planning, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Food, Ministry of Communication, Ministry of Local Government, Ministry of Law and Land Reforms, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, Ministry of Industries and Commerce, Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, Ministry of Works, Ministry of Information, Ministry of Health and Population Control, Ministry of Social Welfare and Women Affairs, Ministry of Labor and Manpower.

The council also decided to dissolve the Jatiya Juba Sangstha [National Youth Organization] and Jatiya Mahila Juba Sangstha [National Women's Youth Organization] with immediate effect and the persons on the payroll of these organizations will be (?paid off) on 30 April. It was however decided that the government would make utmost efforts to absorb as many as these offices and personnel as possible.

MARTIAL LAW ORDER ON TRIAL OF PUBLIC SERVANTS

BK091228 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1205 GMT 9 Apr 82

[Text] The chief martial law administrator has issued Martial Law Order Number 10 doing away with the provisions of sanction of the government or any other authority for the prosecution and trial of a public servant for an offense punishable under martial law.

The order says notwithstanding anything contained in any law for the time being in force, sanction of the government or any other authorities will not be necessary for the prosecution or trial of a public servant for an offense punishable under any martial law regulation or martial law order or any other order made by the chief martial law administrator.

Such sanction will not also be necessary for the prosecution or trial of a public servant for an offense punishable under any other law before any special martial law tribunal, special martial law court or summary martial law court. It said any such tribunal or court [words indistinct] and try any such offense without any sanction. It was also clarified that the term public servant will have the same meaning as in the criminal law amendment act of 1958.

TRIAL OF FORMER DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER BEGINS

BK090952 Dacca Domestic Service in Bengali 1700 GMT 8 Apr 82

[Text] The special martial law tribunal constituted by the chief martial law administrator and the commander in chief of the armed forces on 3 April started functioning at the old Gana Bhavan [People's House] in Dacca today. The five-member tribunal is headed by Brigadier M. Mushaud Chowdhury as its chairman. The other members are: Commander Mohammad Nural Islam of the Bangladesh Navy, Wing Commander A.S.M. Majidur Rahman of the Bangladesh Air Force, Z.A. Shamsul Haq, chief metropolitan magistrate, and Mohammad Habibullah, additional district and session judge of Khulna. The tribunal started the trial of former Deputy Prime Minister Jamaluddin Ahmed, who has been charged under clause 2 of Martial Law Number 1 of 1982 for corruption and criminally dishonest conduct. The chairman of the special tribunal read out the charges to Jamaluddin Ahmed, who pleaded not guilty.

OBAIDULLAH KHAN GIVEN AGRICULTURE PORTFOLIO

BK061352 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1255 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Chief Martial Law Administrator [CMLA] Lt Gen H.M. Ershad today appointed A.Z.M. Obaidullah Khan as an adviser and allocated him the portfolio of the Ministry of Agriculture. This has been announced by the CMLA Secretariat in Dacca.

CMLA SECRETARIAT ANNOUNCES OFFICIAL'S RETIREMENT

BK110212 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 10 Apr 82

[Text] Atiqullah Chowdhury, joint secretary in the [words indistinct] division, Ministry of Finance, has been retired from the government service with immediate effect. This was announced from the Chief Martial Law Administrator's [CMLA] Secretariat in Dacca tonight.

Retirement of Officers

BK070909 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0835 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] A number of officers have been retired from government service with immediate effect. The officers are: Mahboob Alam Chashi, special secretary for swanirvar [self-reliance]; A.B.S. Shakdar, secretary, sports and culture division; A.M. (Mizaluddin), secretary, food; Mohammad Yusuf, secretary, science and technology division; A.M. Hyder Hossain, secretary, health and population control; Sirazul Haq, director general, Ansar [civil militia]; and A.M.M. Aminur Rahman, director, (?NSI). The government has also appointed Major General, retired, Wazirullah, director general of Ansar.

HABIB CHATTI ENDS VISIT, COMMENTS ON TALKS

BK100929 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 10 Apr 82

[Text] Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization [OIC], has said he held useful discussions with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan on all major problems facing the Muslim world. He was talking to newsmen at Islamabad airport last night before leaving for Amman. He said they studied these problems in depth and reached a compete identity of views. He said we considered all aspects of relations between the OIC and Pakistan and the activities of the Islamic peace committee in which the Pakistan president has played a role of primary importance.

About his talks with the foreign minister, Habib Chatti said he had useful talks which constituted the beginning of cooperation that will, God willing, lead to working together for the cause of Islam. He said the Afghanistan issue was also discussed and his visit to the Afghan refugee camp in Peshawar helped him to understand how heavy a burden Pakistan is having to bear. He said Pakistan has done its best to help the Afghan brothers and has obtained significant results -- although more could be done.

Answering questions, he said he has informed both Tehran and Baghdad that a peace mission of the OIC will be visiting the two countries by the middle of this month to make efforts to end the Iran-Iraq conflict. He thanked the president for the support which he has always given to the OIC. The foreign minister and other officials saw him off.

UN REPRESENTATIVE ON AFGHANISTAN BEGINS VISIT

BK110643 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 11 Apr 82

[Text] Diego Cordovez, the personal representative of the UN secretary general on Afghanistan, has arrived in Islamabad to help promote a political solution of the Afghanistan problem. Talking to newsmen at the airport, he expressed the hope that he would find through discussions, ways and means to achieve a durable solution to the Afghanistan issue. He said the main purpose of his visit was to gain direct knowledge of the views of the parties concerned.

Replying to another question as to whether he had brought a new proposal to resolve the issue, he said there was always a possibility of new solutions and new efforts, but he wanted to know the attitudes of the concerned parties after which what is possible in this connection could be known. He said he wanted to carry forward the process initiated by his predecessor Perez de Cuellar.

Replying to another question as to whether he noted any flexibility in the attitude of the Karmal administration toward a solution of the issue, he said that he had meetings with the representative of the Karmal administration at the United Nations, but these were not in-depth discussions. Cordovez will visit Islamabad, Kabul and Tehran during the next 10 days in an effort to start a dialogue between Pakistan, Iran and the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

Meets With Haq

BK120624 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 12 Apr 82

[Text] Diego Cordovez, the personal representative of the UN secretary general on Afghanistan, currently visiting Pakistan, called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi last night. Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and Federal Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan were also present during the meeting. Earlier, Cordovez held talks with the foreign minister on the Afghanistan issue. He is expected to continue his talks today.

COUP PLOT UNCOVERED; QOTBZADEH ARRESTED 10 APR

LD101824 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Apr 82

[Statement issued on 10 April by the chief of the Armed Forces Islamic Revolution Court in connection with the arrest of Sadeq Qotbzadeh -- read by announcer]

[Text] In His exalted name. Revolutionary and martyr-nurturing Islamic nation: Blessed by divine favors which have always been granted to this heroic and oppressed nation and with the aid of the 36-million-member intelligence organization, which is always guarding the fruits of the revolution -- everywhere and in all institutions -- and always following the consistent watch maintained by the Armed Forces Revolution Court and the Revolution Guards Corps, another foolish plot aimed at overthrowing the Islamic Republic has been discovered.

The plot was instigated by a number of counterrevolutionaries in conjunction with the nationalists, monarchists and (?hypocritical), power-hungry people. Its main perpetrators, including Sadeq Qotbzadeh, who is one of the plot's active members, have been arrested.

Following the Islamic Republic's miraculous victory in the Fath al-Mubin operations which disgraced and exposed America and other colonialists, as well as internal plotters, Saddam and the region's reactionaries -- particularly when they were disappointed by the cooperation of the valiant and Muslim army of Iran, which proved its love and devotion to Islam during the recent operations -- these mercenaries, who receive their inspiration from their foreign masters, intended to use foreign assistance to resort to the biggest crime.

They intended to take our dear and great imam, this pulsating heart of the revolutionary nation, away from the nation and the revolution. By extinguishing this divine light and shining flame of the Islamic revolution, they hoped to pave the way for the renewal of their Western masters' domination and plundering. They intended to gain a parasitical power for themselves.

The blind-hearted plotters of this crime first intended to eliminate the imam and the Supreme Defense Council. Then, under the devious pretext of avenging the blood of the imam and his associates, they planned to use the help of foreign forces to subject other responsible institutions and revolutionary organs to a bloody purge, and thus take over the Government of the Islamic Republic.

The Armed Forces Revolution Court, with the help of the 36-million-strong intelligence organization and the cooperation of the Revolution Guards Corps, has been keeping an eye on the situation for some time. Having collected adequate evidence, including taped conversations between the plot leaders and full identification of the network, the main and effective members of the network were arrested and questioned at an opportune time. As a result, by dealing yet another blow to America's interests the vain hopes being entertained by the arch-Satan have been foiled. At the moment, those responsible for security matters and judicial affairs are in possession of clearcut evidence. They are preparing the case and seeking other accused individuals.

The ever-alert people of the country will be informed of the details of the plot at the first available opportunity.

[Signed] Chief of the Armed Forces Revolution Court Mohammadi Reyshakri, 10 April 1982

Khomeyni Comments

LD102040 Tehran IRNA in English 2000 GMT 10 Apr 82

[Text] Tehran, 10 April (IRNA) -- Following the discovery in Tehran of a coup attempt against the Islamic Republic on Friday, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, said to a group of visiting staff of the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY (IRNA) in Tehran this morning that in a country like Iran, in which people from every walk of life were craving for martyrdom, the idea of staging a coup d'etat would dawn on unsophisticated minds only.

The imam, who was talking in his Tehran residence to a mixed audience of IRNA staff, tribesmen, relatives of martyrs, members of the reconstruction jihad, the staff of the Red Crescent, a group of the staff of the Iranian radio and television and others, referred to plotters against the Islamic Republic and the Islamic revolution as people with "puerile" minds who were weaving "silly" machinations against the Islamic Republic, unconscious of the ever watchful eyes of the citizens around them.

He said "a group of several hundred or more or less are incapable of challenging a country and a people such as we have here. They (the plotters) are misled in that they do not know the power of Islam, nor have they an inkling of knowledge about their own people here... they tend to overlook the ever watchful eyes of the people on them. They plunge themselves into a perilous situation. They mean to beguile our youngsters..."

He said those who had been weaving plots in and outside the country were insane people whose eyes had been dazzled by personal ambitions and love of power.

The imam again compared comtemporary Iran against what it was during the reign of the ex-shah and his father and reiterated that a people who had been spiritually transformed into conscientious and patriotic citizens taking spiritual support from Islam and its teachings could not be defeated. He said however seriously the enemies of the Islamic revolution and the Islamic Republic may try to undermine the present system in the country, their efforts would be foiled by a people who, due to the power of Islam, had been transformed into a nation of fun-loving, easy-going and morally lax people into a nation of conscientious and self-committed citizens consecrated the values of Islam. [sentence as received]

He said for a period of more than fifty years, culminating in the Islamic revolution, foreign powers had taken full control of all social and industrial activities in Iran in order to exploit this country for their own ends and in order to keep it ever dependent on the foreign powers. He said the predatory powers of the world such as Britain and the United States had long fulfilled their insiduous stratagem here with view to annihilating Islam and misrepresenting the religion so that less and less people would take it seriously enough to fall back on it as a bastion from which they could wage a war against the foreign powers.

The imam said for obvious reasons among the first targets of the imperialists in Iran was the cultural and educational system of Iran. He said for a long time agents from the foreign powers [word indistinct] in Iran in order that they might hold key positions and assign the Iranians the lower odd jobs. Said he: "The United States meant to make us a colony of its own. It meant to plunder our resources and to harm our Islamic dignity." He said the people owed it to the Almighty for the recognition of such vital acts immediately affecting their own lives. "It was the hand of the invisible power which casts its shadows on these people, and which helped to wake them up."

The imam again asked those of the youngsters who were lured into the trap of counter-revolutionary agents, or who have a moral attachment to them, to think about the masterminds of the opposition and review their stand vis-a-vis the Islamic government, and remember to what countries they have fled.

He expressed the hope that God Almighty would enable all Iranian Muslims as well as world's Muslims to fulfill their duties as required of them in the Islamic faith.

Qotbzadeh Execution Demanded

NC121158 Paris AFP in English 1153 GMT 12 Apr 82

[Text] Tehran, 12 Apr (AFP) -- Residents of the holy city of Qom have demanded the execution of former Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh, who has been arrested and charged with involvement in a plot to assassinate Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni and seize power, the KEYHAN newspaper reported today.

A large number of demonstrators at Qom, 150 km (93 miles) south of Tehran, marched in front of the seat of the revolutionary court there and chanted such slogans as "Prosecutor, execute Qotbzadeh" and "Death to Qotbzadeh", the newspaper said.

Mr. Qotbzadeh's arrest was announced on Saturday in Tehran by a communique from the army's Islamic Revolutionary Court.

CABINET DISCUSSES PLOT, MEDIATION TALKS

LD111156 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Apr 82

[Excerpt] According to an IRNA report, the Cabinet met today under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi. Having received the battle reports, the meeting participants discussed the latest sociopolitical developments in the country and the region.

Commenting on the Cabinet agenda at the conclusion of the meeting, government spokesman Tavakkoli said: The question of the arrest of Sadeq Qotbzadeh, an issue which was watched for some time with God's blessing and the correct approach adopted by the infiltrating Hezbollahi agents, was raised during today's meeting. He added: In a taped conversation, Qotbzadeh referred to himself as one of this century's leading statesmen, as Bani-Sadr used to consider himself as the biggest thinker of the century. It is rather surprising how some people who enjoy only a minimal amount of power believe that they can stand against this combative nation.

Commenting on the Nonaligned Movement delegation's visit to Iran he said: We have repeatedly declared our just stance. One must not expect us to retreat from our Koranic stance. The government spokesman then said: In today's meeting Foreign Minister Velayati briefed the Cabinet on his new moves on foreign issues; this was of interest to the meeting. He continued, adding: This shows our just position, for those people who were not previously prepared to listen to us are now moving to accept our statements.

Referring to the completion of oil storage tanks, which had been destroyed in Khuninshahr and are now in the process of being set up, he said: The allocation of another 500 million rials for the completion of this project was approved by the Cabinet.

NONALIGNED DELEGATION ARRIVES TO DISCUSS WAR

LD101716 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Apr 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, a delegation appointed by the nonaligned countries arrived in Tehran today in order to discuss the Iraqi-imposed war on Iran. The delegation is comprised of the foreign ministers of Cuba, Zambia and India and the PLO envoy. The delegation was welcomed on arrival in Tehran by Foreign Minister Velayati, a number of senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and officials from the Cuban, Zambian, Indian and Palestinian missions in Tehran.

The delegation departed for the presidential offices to meet President Khamene'i immediately after their arrival in Tehran.

Meets With Khamene'i, Velayati

LD102142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 10 Apr 82

[Excerpts] According to the Central News Unit, a delegation of the Nonaligned Movement comprising the foreign ministers of Cuba and Zambia, the head of PLO Political Department and the deputy foreign minister [as heard] of India arrived in Tehran tonight and held a round of talks with President Khamene'i. During the talks, which were also attended by Foreign Minister Velayati, the under secretaries of the Foreign Ministry and the deputy foreign minister, the Cuban foreign minister read out the delegation's statement on its views and proposals. Expressing his pleasure at receiving the delegation which by trying to end the Iraqi-imposed war on Iran is attempting to establish peace, the president explained the Islamic Republic's just stance, our country's conditions for the establishment of a just and honorable peace which would preclude aggression and our conditions for securing the inalienable rights of the Muslim people of Iran.

Tonight's talks lasted about 2 and a half hours. Another round of talks between the delegation and our foreign minister has been scheduled and should it be deemed necessary the delegation will have another meeting with the president.

ISLAMIC CONGRESS DELEGATION MEETS WITH KHAMENE'I

LD091230 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Apr 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the four-man delegation selected by the World Islamic Congress, which has come to our country entrusted with the task of ending the war imposed by Iraq on Iran, met with Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the president of the republic, last night. During this meeting, also attended by Foreign Minister Mr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Mr Dawalibi, secretary general of the World Islamic Congress and spokesman of the delegation, while recounting the record of the seminary, noted: With the understanding that I have of the questions of the revolution and the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran I have come to realize that this country is closer than any other country to the spirit of the Islamic congress. I look with optimism toward the Islamic revolution and I am confident that the future belongs to Islam. As to your conditions, if I were to put myself in your place I would demand more than what you are asking.

He added: On my arrival I did not know how to begin the subject. When in the hotel where we are staying I heard on television the explanation of the prophet's tradition that should (?seditions) like the [word indistinct] of a dark night assail your position you ought to seek refuge with the Koran, I found the best introduction for beginning my speech. Now, in your opinion, is there a way for preventing this disturbance and darkness brought about with the aim of fomenting fratricide and destruction in the two Islamic countries?

Replying to the secretary general of the World Islamic Congress and spokesman of the chosen delegation, Mr Khamene'i said: To us any just remark and formula which does not include acquiescing to aggression is acceptable. We act in accordance with the teachings of the Koran.

After the victory of our revolution we had great need for peace and tranquility in order to attend to the situation in our country. Moreover, to us the problem of Palestine is a fundamental issue. Our fighting might should be utilized in a place where the Palestinians are struggling. For this reason we had no inclination for war and now, too, we prefer peace, but as Muslims it is impossible for us to tolerate aggression. Even if we were to be attacked from every direction we are not a people to bow our heads to aggression and the aggressor.

The Koranic verse "If you back God, He will back you and consolidate your position" has warmed our hearts since we believe that we are rendering help to God and we are confident that God, too, will give us help. We have suffered all manners of hardships in order to implement the words: "There is no god but God and Muhammad is the apostle of God," and thereby we have been dealt blows from both East and West. We wish to be like a resisting rock whereby despite the fact that we are under pressure from the pincers of Eastern and Western powers we would resist so much until we would twist the jaws of these pincers.

In conclusion Mr Khamene'i said: I hope that we will see better days when the world Muslims will rally together in order to study the fundamental problems of the world of Islam.

Delegation Departs

LD101106 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Apr 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the delegation of the World Islamic Congress which came to Tehran to end the Iraqi-imposed war on Iran left Tehran this morning. The delegation met with President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i before leaving.

MUSAVI-ARDABILI SPEAKS ON MEDIATION EFFORTS

LD091310 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Apr 82

[Excerpts] The religious-political Friday prayers were held today throughout the country with the participation of millions of our Muslim compatriots. Vast crowds of the people of Tehran took part in the Friday prayers at Tehran University under the imamate of Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili, the acting Friday imam of Tehran.

At the beginning of the first prayer sermon the acting Friday imam of Tehran, referring to the Fath operations in the new year said: As our revolution was entering its fourth year our illustrious and esteemed fighters won honor, dignity, fame, greatness, confirmation and everything for our revolution, our people and our country.

In an Islamic government, if the government has a plan and a project and asks the people to help it they should make a positive response. When the government says we wish to go and fight against the infidel Saddam and put an end to his aggression, the people should accept this invitation. He added: Although Saddam still does not admit his defeat and still says that the Iranian towns are under his domination, the reactionary powers and the superpowers who know the truth about the condition of their servant ask us to accept peace. Should one tell a party which has been the object of aggression, whose rights have been trampled upon and whose aggressor still does not admit that he has been defeated to accept peace? They do not want us to accept peace. They want us to surrender. This is why this nation says that the solution should be found on the battlefronts.

In the second prayer sermon, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili, the acting Friday imam of Tehran, referring to the peace delegations which come to Iran and to the fact that one such delegation is present at the Friday prayers in Tehran today, said: Today we again hear much about the fact that Iran should prepare for peace. The acting Friday imam of Tehran then added:

[Begin recording] Some of those who consult us, who consult Iran, about this matter mean well. They really wish to see whether we are in favor of war or peace. When I was coming up here to preach the sermon, I was told that our guests who have come to Iran in this connection are present at this meeting. I tell the whole nation, especially these dear guests, that Iran thanks you for your peace-loving efforts. You should know that our nation is no warmonger, it did not start the war, it does not wish to continue the war. Iran is fighting against aggression and is triumphant and victorious. [shouts of "God is great"]

You can see that the enemy is on Iranian territory and prides itself in having occupied several of our towns. Yet they come and tell us to make peace. Be fair; if we lay down our weapons, is this peace or is it surrender? Despite all our power and capability, should we surrender to Saddam and the Saddamists? Are we not entitled to defend our rights? When did the aggressor stop his aggression; when were the signs of aggression eliminated; when was the aggressor punished and when did we say that we wish to continue to fight? Why is the world using such logic?

Why do the nonaligned governments, which see that the Baghdad regime is aggressive, instead of holding their session in a more suitable place -- because they cannot stand up to the superpowers, because the superpowers do not listen to them -- come to us and say: Do not fight for 2 months, stop defending your rights, because we wish to have a session [in Baghdad]?

Is this the logic of humanity, Islam and honor? What kind of logic is this? Are we not entitled to complain to some of these peace delegations -- we have no doubt about the sincerity of some of them -- why they do not pursue the issue in a more natural way? We are powerful, and they know that we are powerful. If in the past they did not believe that we were powerful, now they know that we are powerful.

The proof for this knowledge is all these irregular flights and the intellectual confusion of King Husayn. We have a precedent for this. When the chief idol [the late shah] was endangered in Iran, this man [King Husayn] could not keep still on the ground. He was constantly flying from here to there and from this place to that place, seeing if he could save his friend. Now he is flying for the sake of Saddam. Why are you not talking to him? This man has declared war against us. He has sent forces to the war. We are holding some of his men captive.

Are we warmongers, or rather is it that the true warmonger is that na-mubarak [Husni Mubarak; in Arabic mubarak means holy or blessed; na-mubarak means unholy or wicked] who makes peace with Israel but fights against Iran? Israel has carried out aggression against his territory, has inflicted great damage upon it, has brought shame and humility upon him, has created such a calamity for him that Egypt will not be the same Egypt even after 50 years. Nevertheless, he signs a friendship agreement with him but declares war on us and condemns us.

What have we done to be the object of so much hostility, except that we have said: Let us run our country according to our own wishes and decide our own order? Why should we be the object of hostility, although we say that we are not in favor of war, but that we will punish the aggressors in such a way that it will be a lesson to others? [shouts of "God is great"] [end recording]

The acting Friday imam of Tehran continued his speech, saying: They accuse us of wishing to interfere in the internal affairs of Iraq. They are looking at their own reflection in the mirror and mistake it for us. We have been fighting against foreign interference for more than 50-100 years, saying either death or freedom and independence.

We will continue standing by the Iraqi nation until it can hold its destiny in its own hands and can freely decide for itself. If anyone from the East or West wishes to keep that oppressed nation in bondage we will fight ceaselessly against him.

He added: As our imam and leader has announced, we have neither started the war for the sake of land and territory, nor will we continue it. We wish to get rid of tyranny, ourselves and for the Iraqis.

In conclusion, he said: We would be proud to have a policy of good neighborliness with our neighbors, and for all of us together to fight against our common enemy, Israel and America.

PDRY FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS TALKS IN TEHRAN

Report on Arrival

LD101848 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Apr 82

[Text] Mr Salim Salih Muhammad, the PDRY minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Tehran this afternoon at the head of a seven-man delegation. He was welcomed by Mr Velayati, the minister of foreign affairs, and several other ministry officials, by the PDRY charge d'affaires in Tehran, and by the ambassadors of the steadfastness front countries of Syria, Palestine, Algeria and Libya. The PDRY minister of foreign affairs commented on his trip to Iran in an interview with our correspondent.

He said that he is pleased to be able to travel to Iran, and then said: This trip gives me an opportunity to express the warm greetings of the PDRY nation and leadership to the nation of Iran and to Imam Khomeyni. He said that he hoped this trip would help to strengthen and expand relations between the two countries, since the only obstacle preventing the expansion of relations between the two countries, the dictatorial regime of the shah, was toppled by the Islamic revolution of Iran.

He added: We will do our best to expand all aspects of these relations, especially our mutual struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

The PDRY minister of foreign affairs thanked the Iranian revolution and Government for the stand they have taken in support of the Arab nation's struggle, especially the Palestinian issue, and against the Camp David agreements.

I should add that he carries a message from PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to our president, Mr Khamene'i.

Talks With Velayati

LD111232 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Apr 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the visiting PDRY foreign minister, Mr Salim Salih Muhammad, met with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati this morning. The meeting was held at the latter's office and lasted for 2 hours, during which members of the PDRY delegation were also present. Our foreign minister was aided by his deputy, Mr Ahmad 'Azizi and a number of top-ranking officials of the Foreign, Petroleum and Commerce Ministries. The participants discussed topics of mutual interest as well as the situation in the region.

According to this report, the Yemeni minister extended an invitation to our country's foreign minister to visit the PDRY. He also expressed pleasure over his visit to Iran. Citing his nation's victories over British imperialism, the PDRY minister said: We are aware of the Iranian people's struggles, and from the outset we have been a supporter of and a friend to the Islamic revolution. He also called for an expansion of economic relations between our two countries especially in the field of oil.

Our foreign minister accepted the invitation accorded to him to visit the PDRY and said he would make the trip at a convenient time. The Iranian minister briefed his Yemeni counterpart on the stands of the Islamic Republic of Iran following the revolution and said: Elements from within and from the outside have tried to harm our country.

He added: In spite of all the difficulties created by our enemies, we have been able to enjoy a healthy political and economic situation. Our position on the war fronts is indicative of the stability of the domestic situation and of the economy and is also a result of the government's political activity.

Mr Velayati also briefed his Yemeni counterpart on the Islamic Republic of Iran's foreign policy and the Iraqi-imposed war against Iran and added: We pursue a policy of peace and brotherly, neighborly relations with the friendly nations of the region and a policy of coexistence with those who do not want to be our enemy. We do not aggress against anybody's territory, but at the same time we stand fast against those trying to invade our Islamic homeland.

Meeting With Khamene'i

LD111740 Tehran Domestic service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Apr 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Mr Salim Salih Muhammad, the PDRY minister of foreign affairs who is visiting the Islamic Republic of Iran, together with the PDRY ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran, this evening met and conferred with Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the president.

At this meeting, in which Mr Velayati, the minister of foreign affairs, was present, Mr Salim Salih Muhammad presented a message from Mr 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, the president of the PDRY, to Mr Khamene'i.

In a speech he expressed his happiness at the victory gained by the combatants of Islam and congratulated the president on this great victory. He supported the role of the Islamic revolution as a great help for all liberating revolutions, and said: We once again announce our solidarity with the revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran. Your victory is our victory. Whatever problems are created by our enemies to deal blows to the revolution or restrict your influence, are also our problems and restrict us too. I believe that your recent political moves have foiled the conspiracies hatched against you by imperialism and Zionism. He said: We want the relations between our two countries to be expanded and developed.

Our correspondent reports that Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the president of our country, in reply, expressed sympathy with the Government and the nation of South Yemen because of the recent disastrous floods. Referring to the liberation movements of the countries of the region, the Palestinian nation's movement in the occupied territories, especially their heroic and bloody act today, when they staged anti-Zionist demonstrations in Al-Aqsa Mosque, frightening the occupiers of Al-Quds, he said: When viewing the future of the region, I am full of hope.

Finally, Mr Khamene'i asked the South Yemeni foreign minister to convey his greetings to Mr 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, the PDRY president, and to the nation and leaders of that country.

Meets Rafsanjani, Musavi

LD111814 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Apr 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that PDRY Foreign Minister Salim Salih Muhammad and the PDRY's newly appointed ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran conferred with Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Majlis. At this meeting the PDRY foreign minister conveyed a message of solidarity from the president, Government and people of the PDRY. He said he was pleased to be in Iran, and he wished success and victory for the Islamic revolution of Iran and hoped for the expansion of relations between the two countries.

In reply, Hashemi-Rafsanjani welcomed him and said: Our meeting should have taken place much earlier. After the establishment of the Islamic Republic, the many common stances adopted by our countries and the fact that the people of both countries are Muslims should have led us to establish closer relations a long time ago. Nonetheless, the stances you have adopted have made us feel close to you.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: I thank your president and your country's leaders for supporting Iran and backing us as much as possible. With your ambassador in Iran and our ambassador in your country, we expect to be able to direct our efforts toward establishing stronger ties between our two countries. At the end of the meeting, the PDRY foreign minister asked Hashemi-Rafsanjani to convey the greetings of the president of the PDRY to Imam Khomeyni.

According to the same report, PDRY Foreign Minister Salim conferred with Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi this afternoon. Foreign Minister Velayati and his political deputy were present. Matters of mutual interest were discussed.

Delegations Hold Talks

LD111720 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Apr 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, members of the PDRY Foreign Ministry economic delegation, continuing their meetings with officials of the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran, this afternoon held talks with Mr Kazempur-Ardabili, the Foreign Ministry under secretary for international and economic affairs. A draft [presumably memorandum of] understanding was agreed on in general with a view to its being signed at the conclusion of the visit to Iran by the PDRY foreign minister.

Departure for Aden

LD121104 Tehran IRNA in English 0922 GMT 12 Apr 82

[Text] Tehran, 12 Apr (IRNA) -- The foreign minister of People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Salim Salih Muhammad, and his seven-man delegation left Tehran for Aden this morning. During their 34-hour stay in Tehran Mr Salih Muhammad held discussions with President Khamene'i, Majlis Speaker Rafsanjani, Prime Minister Musavi, and Foreign Minister Velayati.

The delegation also held fruitful negotiations with authorities of the Ministries of Commerce, and Oil and under secretary of the Ministry of Economy.

Foreign Minister Velayati, who saw off his Yemenese counterpart at the airport, speaking about the trip of Yemenese delegation, said that the negotiations held and the letter of understanding which was signed between the two countries was a step for the trip of a Yemenese high-ranking economic delegation to Iran.

SALIMI: U.S. COMPANIES WITHDRAW CLAIMS

LD112140 Tehran IRNA in English 1950 GMT 11 Apr 82

[Text] Tehran, 11 Apr (IRNA) -- The Iranian defence minister, Colonel Salimi, said here today that Iran had successfully ended its talks with 12 American companies which had brought suits against it. These companies, said the colonel, have announced their readiness to deliver to Iran the items it had purchased from them before the verdict to be issued by The Hague arbitration court in this respect.

The defence minister said that many of the U.S. companies had withdrawn their suits against the Islamic Republic so that these suits had been decreased to one twentieth their original volume, and he further added that, nevertheless, the U.S. Government refused to deliver to Iran the said purchased items.

Speaking in an interview with the Persian daily ETTELA'AT, Colonel Salimi also said that in the future the Iranian soldiers would be supplied with armaments the primary materials of which had been manufactured inside the country, as much as possible.

He went on to say that then the defence system of the Islamic Republic would quell forever any tendency of aggression and expansionism in Saddam and those who followed his direction.

Referring to the country's military industries organization, Minister Salimi pointed out that in the past there were over 2,660 foreigners working in the organization most of whom, he said, were U.S. spies serving as "advisers." This, according to the minister of defense, was one of the clear-cut signs of Iran's dependency on the United States during the reign of the ex-shah. But today, remarked Colonel Salimi, thanks to the Islamic revolution, there were no U.S. or Zionist advisers in the military industries organization. A new section on "industrial research" has been set up in the organization to work on the inventions and innovations of the Iranian people, said the defense minister, and he further added that the devout Muslim workers of the ministry had succeeded, to a great extent, in foiling the economic blockade imposed by the West and East, through innovations in the field of production.

Commenting on the Iraqi-imposed war, Colonel Salimi stated that it would ultimately end in Saddam's downfall, which also meant the collapse of the reactionary governments in the region. Therefore, concluded he, after the Iraqi-imposed war the field would be opened for the progressive Muslim governments to give a positive reply to their peoples and to fight against Zionism.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 850

LD091728 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Apr 82

[Communique 850 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The situation at the fronts of the imposed war during the past 24 hours is hereby brought to the attention of the dear compatriots:

Yesterday, all along the southern fronts, our victorious champions successfully defended their positions and returned the enemy fire, thus foiling the fire and operations of the Saddamist forces. Enemy forces were halted by artillery and heavy-weapon fire on an enemy supply route in the Al-Faw region by our forces.

On the Khorramshahr front, the heroes of the navy returned the enemy fire and, silencing their fire, inflicted damage and casualties on the Saddamist forces.

The combatants of the gendarmerie on the Abadan front opened fire on enemy positions, destroying 6 collective trenches, 1 ammunition depot and an engineering vehicle belonging to the Saddamists, killing or wounding 45.

The city of Abadan came under fire by the mercenary Saddamists yesterday, as a result of which several people were wounded or martyred.

On the Marivan front, the heavy fire of the artillery units of our ground forces smashed enemy positions in (Hargineh) and (Tutman) and other locations on the same front, destroying 10 military equipment positions and several supply points and killing 16 and wounding a number of others from the forces of blasphemy.

On the Nowsud fronts, the Saddamist positions came under the mortar fire and heavy-weapon fire of our combatants, as a result of which their fire was silenced, a number of their forces were killed, and some of their heavy- and light-warfare machinery positions and supply points were destroyed.

Fire by ground forces artillery units destroyed two fieldguns and a number of vehicles belonging to the Saddamists in the (Ganjvin) and Shur-e Shirin regions where some of their forces were killed as well.

In Sumar, Gilan-e Gharb and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, the exchange of artillery and heavy-weapon fire continued between our strong forces and those of the enemy, and on each of these fronts the champions of the ground forces prevented the enemy from moving around or taking any action. Enemy tank and supply positions came under heavy fire by our forces and sustained considerable damage.

In (Golshiran) Bozorg and Tapeh Gachi, combatants of Islam destroyed the positions occupied by Iraqi forces and stopped the activities of their engineering units.

Yesterday all aggressions by the Saddamist forces in the airspace of the south and west of the country were foiled and the aggressive Iraqi planes were forced to flee.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 851

LD101846 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Apr 82

[Communique 851 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, leveling artillery and mortar fire on the positions of the aggressive enemy forces in the Sayyid Sadiq region, destroyed three fieldguns, two Katuyshas and a large quantity of ammunition yesterday. They killed 20 Iraqi soldiers and wounded 5 others. Our heroes also fired on the Toveyleh heights and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy forces.

Exchanges of fire between our forces and the aggressive forces continued in the Paveh region, as a result of which about 10 Saddamists were killed.

Sporadic exchanges of fire continued in the Sumar region with the artillery units of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran opening fire on enemy positions and supply routes, killing or wounding a number of aggressors.

In the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region, heavy fire by our forces on Iraqi artillery, armor and infantry positions stopped all activity. Many enemy supply points were destroyed and their fire was silenced. In the Gilan-e Gharb region, the enemy forces were prevented from changing position.

Over the past 24 hours, the defenders on the war fronts in the southern region of the country stopped the enemy from taking any action and dealt heavy blows to it, destroying a large number of positions and a great deal of equipment and ammunition belonging to the aggressors.

The combatants of Islam opened fire on enemy infantry and tank positions in the Abadan region, destroying three entrenchments and killing or wounding a number of Iraqi soldiers.

Yesterday the aggressive army of Saddam opened heavy-weapon fire on residential areas of Abadan which resulted in property damage and loss of life.

Over the past 24 hours, the antiaircraft units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran beat back the attacks of Iraqi planes on several border towns and operational locations in the southern and western regions of the country.